

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Previously canceled).

Claim ¹~~12~~ (Currently amended). An anchoring element comprising:

a screw;

a receiving portion for connecting the screw to a rod;

wherein the screw comprises a threaded section and a head having a spherical segment-shaped section;

wherein the receiving portion comprises a first end, a second end opposite the first end, a longitudinal axis passing through the two ends, a bore coaxial with the longitudinal axis, a first region adjoining the first end with an essentially U-shaped cross-section with two free arms for receiving the rod (19) to be inserted, the two free arms comprising a thread, a second region adjoining the second end for receiving the spherical segment-shaped section of said head; and

an element which exerts pressure on the rod or on the head;

wherein the thread section and the spherical segment-shaped section of the head of the screw are separate parts.

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Claim ~~13~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ¹~~12~~, wherein the threaded section comprises a shank for engaging the head.

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Claim ~~14~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ²~~13~~, wherein the head comprises a spring-like yielding edge facing toward the threaded section of the screw.

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Claim ~~15~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ³~~14~~, wherein the spring-like yielding edge comprises one or more apertures or recesses

which are directed parallel to the axis and distributed circumferentially around the head.

Claim ⁷~~16~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ¹~~12~~, wherein the head comprises a side wall and a bore hole coaxial with the axis.

Claim ⁸~~17~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ⁷~~16~~, wherein the head contains an aperture extending over an entire length of the side wall in a direction parallel to the axis.

Claim ⁹~~18~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ⁷~~16~~, wherein the bore is cylindrical.

Claim ⁵~~19~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ²~~18~~, wherein the shank comprises the rough surface.

Claim ⁶~~20~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ²~~18~~, wherein the shank has a polygonal cross sectional shape in a section perpendicular to the axis.

Claim ¹¹~~21~~ (Currently amended). ~~The anchoring element according to claim 16,~~ An anchoring element comprising:

_____ a screw;
_____ a receiving portion for connecting the screw to a rod;
_____ wherein the screw comprises a threaded section and a head having a spherical segment-shaped section;
_____ wherein the receiving portion comprises a first end, a second end opposite the first end, a longitudinal axis passing through the two ends, a bore coaxial with the longitudinal axis, a first region adjoining the first end with an essentially U-shaped cross-section with two free arms for receiving the rod (19) to be inserted, the two free

arms comprising a thread, a second region adjoining the second end for receiving the
spherical segment-shaped section of said head; and
an element which exerts pressure on the rod or on the head;
wherein the thread section and the head of the screw are separate parts;
wherein the head comprises a side wall and a bore hole coaxial with the axis;
wherein the bore hole has an internal thread and the shank has an external
thread for mating therewith.

Claim ¹⁰~~22~~ (Previously submitted). The anchoring element according to claim ⁷~~16~~,
wherein the bore hole is corrugated internally in the circumferential direction and the
shank has a corresponding corrugation on its outer side for mating therewith.